

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/S:FORTIZ:JLH

APPROVED BY S/S-MR. ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 221178 TOSEC 120027

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 7104 ACTION SECSTATE SEP 17.

QUOTE: S E C R E T GENEVA 7104

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY, SISCO, ATHERTON FROM SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EG, IS, PFOR

SUBJ: GENEVA MILITARY WORKING GROUP -- ADDED BACKGROUND FOR
SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH PERES

1. THIS MESSAGE COVERS TWO SUBJECTS WHICH IT WOULD
BE USEFUL FOR SECRETARY TO BE AWARE OF, IF POSSIBLE,
BEFORE HE MEETS PERES. SECOND IS NEW SUBJECT (PARA. 4)
UNDERSTAND GAMASY WILL BE MAKING STATEMENT DIRECTLY TO AMB.
EILTS BUT HOPE COMMENTS BELOW WILL PROVIDE LATEST PERSPECTIVE
ON THESE POINTS FROM HERE.

2. FIRST IS GAMASY'S COMMENT ON TALKS IN MILITARY

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WORKING GROUP CONVEYED TO ME BY MEMBER OF EGYPTIAN

DELEGATION WHO JUST CAME BACK FROM QUICK TRIP TO
CAIRO. GAMASY'S MAIN POINTS ARE:

A. THE REACTION TO THE AGREEMENT BY OTHER ARABS
AND THE PALESTINIANS MAKES IT ESSENTIAL THAT IMPLE-
MENTATION KEEP MOVING STEADILY. SPECIFICALLY, IF
REDEPLOYMENT IN NORTHERN AREA IS FROZEN UNTIL MID-
FEBRUARY

ASIT IS UNDER PRESENT ISRAELI POSITION,
THIS WILL LEAD TO DEADLOCK IN GENEVA TALKS. THERE
MUST BE CONTINUOUS MOVEMENT. ISRAEL MUST TURN OVER
SOUTHERN AREA COMPLETELY BY DECEMBER 1. (COMMENT:
LAST SENTENCE SEEMS TO BE FADING AS MAJOR ISSUE
ALTHOUGH ISRAELIS ARE ASKING FOR SOME ROAD USE AFTER
DECEMBER 1, BUT SECRETARY COULD MENTION IN CONTEXT OF OVERALL
ISSUE OF PHASING.)

B. SECOND ISSUE THAT WILL LEAD TO DEADLOCK AT
GENEVA IS IF ISRAELIS INSIST ON ADDITIONAL ARMS
LIMITATIONS. (COMMENT: ISRAELIS SEEM TO BE BACKING
AWAY FROM THIS, BUT SECRETARY MIGHT NOTE TO PERES HE
IS AWARE OF ISRAELI EFFORT TO ESTABLISH LIMITATIONS
WHICH WERE EXPLICITLY REJECTED DURING SHUTTLE AND
COULD INDICATE US WILL NOT SUPPORT THIS. PRESENT
ISRAELI TACT IS THAT EGYPT SHOULD SIMPLY "INFORM"
ISRAEL WHAT ARE STANDARD NUMBERS OF EQUIPMENT FOR
BATTALIONS. WITH A NUDGE, ISRAELIS CAN PROBABLY BE
PERSUADED TO DROP THIS.)

C. UNEF SHOULD ENTER EARLY WARNING SYSTEM AREA.
(COMMENT: WHEN I ASKED MAGHDOUB WHETHER OUR CONCEPT
OF UNEF ESCORT UP TO GATES OF SURVEILLANCE SITES BUT
NOT INSIDE IS ACCEPTABLE, HE SAID IT IS. GAMASY
REACTING TO ISRAELI PAPER WHICH WOULD EXCLUDE UNEF
FROM ACCESS ROADS TO SITES.)

D. EGYPT WOULD PREFER NOT TO HAVE US ROLE IN
WARNING SYSTEM DESCRIBED IN PROTOCOL. (COMMENT:
TWO DOCUMENTS NOW BEING DISCUSSED HERE ARE PROTOCOL
WHICH WILL BE PUBLIC AND CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT ON
SECRET

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ADDITIONAL UNDERSTANDING WHICH WILL NOT BE PUBLIC.
GAMASY'S COMMENT IMPLIES THAT ANY POINTS ADDITIONAL
TO THOSE ALREADY PUBLISHED IN PROPOSAL WOULD BE IN
CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT. ISRAELIS WILL PROBABLY OBJECT.)

E. POINTS C AND D ABOVE OBVIOUSLY NOT IN SAME
LEAGUE AS A AND B.

3. AT SESSION 12 TUESDAY NIGHT, SHAFIR PUT FORWARD NEW REDEPLOYMENT SCHEDULE. APART FROM EARLIER ENTRY OF TECHNICIANS, RAS SUDAR AREA WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO EGYPT NOVEMBER 16 AND ABQRO EIS NOVEMBER 24 WITH HAMAM FARAUN TEMPORARY BUFFER BETWEEN. MAGHDOUB, REFLECTING GAMASY'S POSITION, WANTS RAS SUDAR BY END OCTOBER. MAIN PROBLEM, HOWEVER, REMAINS IN NORTH WHERE FIRST EGYPTIAN MOVE IS JANUARY 16 UP TO LINE E IN SOUTH. AFTER THAT, THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT EGYPTIAN MOVE UNTIL FEBRUARY 19. THUS LATEST ISRAELI PROPOSAL IS NOT SIGNIFICANTLY MORE REYLONG TO GAMASY'S REQUEST FOR REGULAR PHASED MOVEMENT THAN FIRST PROPOSAL.

4. SECOND SUBJECT WORTH MENTIONING TO PERES CAME UP AT OIL EXPERTS' MEETING TUESDAY NIGHT. ISRAELIS ARE TALKING ABOUT REMOVING "MOBILE EQUIPMENT", WHICH I UNDERSTAND WOULD INCLUDE CRANES AND OTHER SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT THAT, ESPECIALLY IN CASE OF OFFSHORE WELLS, ARE ESSENTIAL TO OPERATION OF OILFIELDS. WHILE ISRAELIS CAN ARGUE THAT ANNEX COMMITS THEM ONLY TO "LEAVE INTACT ALL CURRENTLY EXISTING CIVILIAN INFRA-STRUCTURES AND INSTALLATIONS" -- AND NOT EQUIPMENT "" INTENT OF THAT PARAGRAPH WAS TO ASSURE THAT OILFIELDS WOULD BE TURNED OVER IN SUCH WAY AS MAKE CONTINUOUS OPERATION POSSIBLE. ISRAELIS INHERITED SUCH EQUIPMENT IN 1967 AND HAVE EXTRACTED OIL FOR EIGHT YEARS. ARRANGEMENTS COULD AT LEAST BE MADE FOR TRANSITIONAL USE OF SUCH EQUIPMENT, SOME OF WHICH IS AVAILABLE IN MARKET ONLY ON LONG LEAD TIMES. (OTHER COMPLICATIONS ON OIL TRANSFER WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.)

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5. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT PROMPTLY TO CAIRO AND TEL AVIV.DALE UNQUOTE SISCO

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